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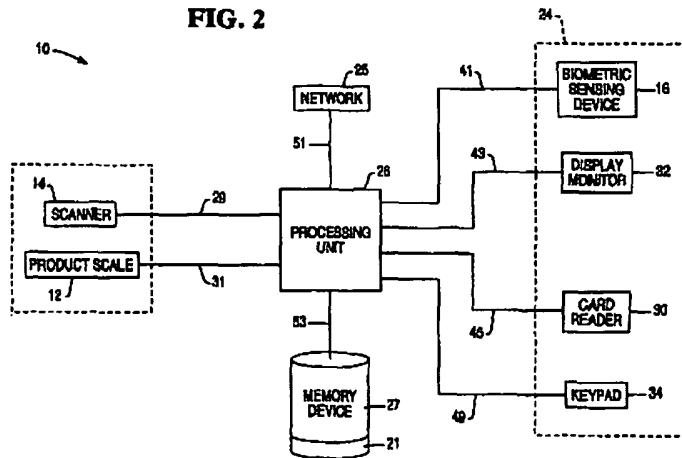
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(54) Self-service checkout terminal having a biometric sensing device for verifying identity of a user and associated method

(57) A self-service checkout terminal includes an input device for receiving a user reported identity code associated with a user of the checkout terminal and a biometric sensing device for detecting a biometric characteristic of the user. The self-service checkout terminal also includes a processing unit electrically coupled to both the input device and the biometric sensing device. Moreover, the self-service checkout terminal includes a memory device electrically coupled to the processing unit. The memory device has stored therein a plurality

of instructions which, when executed by the processing unit, causes the processing unit to (I) retrieve a user biometric profile which corresponds to the user reported identity code, (II) detect if the user enters a restricted item into the checkout terminal and generate a restricted-item control signal in response thereto, and (III) compare the user biometric profile with the biometric characteristic and generate an identity-verified control signal if the user biometric profile matches the biometric characteristic. A method of operating a self-service checkout terminal is also disclosed.

FIG. 2



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 30 7537

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THE HAGUE		24 July 2001	Buron, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
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ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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